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Attorney's Docket No. **D0590/7003** (formerly B0192/7010)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	:	Plaetinck et al.
Serial No	:	09/347,311
Filed	:	July 2, 1999
For	:	CHARACTERISATION OF GENE FUNCTION USING DOUBLE STRANDED RNA INHIBITION
Examiner	:	R. Shukla
Art Unit	:	1632

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the 4th day of January, 2001.

Monica E. Zombori

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

This Amendment is made in response to the Notice to Comply with Sequence Requirements mailed from the Patent Office on December 5, 2000.

Please amend the application as follows.

In the Specification

Please substitute the following amended paragraphs for the corresponding paragraph of the specification.

At page 15, please replace the following paragraph: 3-20

Any vector containing a T7 promoter may be used, and which contains a multiple cloning site (there are many commercially available). Primers containing the complementary strand, both with the appropriate ends are designed. These primers can be hybridized, and if well designed, cloned in the vector of choice. The minimal sequence for a T7 promoter is TAATACGACTCACTATAGGGCGA (SEQ ID NO: 12). Although any vector can be used for